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May 27, 2011

Chairman Julius Genachowski  
Commissioner Michael J. Copps  
Commissioner Robert M. McDowell  
Commissioner Meredith Allwell Baker  
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn

Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street SW Washington, DC 20554

Re: GN Docket 11-65

Dear Chairman Genachowski and Commissioners:

As governor of Tennessee, I am writing to ask you to support AT&T's acquisition of T-Mobile USA. The combination of these two networks would create an environment for expanded access to broadband technologies that helps grow our economy, attract high-quality jobs, and will provide greater resources for our classrooms.

With this proposed acquisition, 95 percent of Tennesseans will have access to next generation mobile broadband—an expansion that will help many areas which are in need of these technologies, particularly rural areas. This access to "4G LTE" technology will promote innovation and create new jobs, spurring economic growth in my state.

Benefits are not just economic. Tennessee is a leader in education reform, and with this technology, schools will have greater resources from which to choose. As we look to expand broadband access to rural areas, this acquisition will increase the resources available to bridge the digital divide in the classroom. It's important that we ensure that our wireless networks are fast and reliable to promote these technologies and help our students achieve.

Whether it is economic development or educational achievement, Tennessee stands to benefit from these two companies coming together. By providing affordable next-generation wireless technology to more people, we all win. Again, I hope you will support AT&T's acquisition of T-Mobile USA.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Bill Haslam  
Governor – State of Tennessee

Cc: Mr. Gregg Morton, President, AT&T Tennessee

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